

ISTITUTO SIENOTERAPICO MILANESE

"SERAFINO BELFANTI"

ENTE MORALE AGGREGATO ALLA UNIVERSITÀ DI MILANO

MILANO - VIA DARWIN, 20

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TELEGRAMMI SIENOTERAPICO - MILANO

U. P. I. C. MILANO N. 48709

Milano, 25/4/53

Dear Joshua,

Your circular letter and the subsequent one of April 16 have been received. I have been delayed in the preparation of the manuscript by the death of my adoptive father, ^(Sforza) which occurred on the 19th. His illness, which aggravated itself in the last two weeks before the end, would have made it impossible ~~serious consideration of with the problem~~ of writing a paper, even if your notes had arrived earlier. I have now sit down to start it, and sent a letter to Chain asking for the latest date for which the manuscript should be in and explaining my reason. I feel in a great embarrassment to send in a paper, which will bear your name, and which may not be seen by you before being sent to the press. I shall do my best to have it approved by you before it is too late; in case the date of reception of the manuscript is too early for having the manuscript revised by you, we might well withhold its publication in the Proceedings of the Congress, and publish it somewhere else, ~~but~~ I am enclosing a rough draft of what it should eventually look like, and shall send a ~~fuller~~ more detailed sample as soon as available. The present draft may be useful to you for suggesting changes in the structure of the paper; ~~thaxmaxix~~ as to language, I think I shall ask the help of Dr. Jinks, from Birmingham who will be here after the 1st of May to work for ~~some time~~ ^(a couple of months) in my lab. We shall not - You do not ther~~efore~~ ^{need} to worry about the language form of the whole thing.

I have received the ~~work~~ ^{papers} of the London symposium. I had planned to attend it, and gave up to attend the needs of the ~~family~~ ^{work}. There seems to be nothing worth serious consideration in it, but I have not had the time of digesting it fully. Yudkin's paper on Nature's issue of the 28th March may deserve more serious consideration, as it seems to offer the most important contribution to confusion after Hinshelwood's work. In order to partially counteract its effects since now, I thought to send a short letter to Nature, a draft of which is enclosed. I should like to have your opinion on it, also because some of the opinions expressed in it should be expanded in our joint manuscript. I also wonder if you approve of the interpretation of Hughes' work.

I feel rather sorry that this joint paper, which might have carried some weight into the controversy, will have to be prepared in a hurry.

Concerning Pyrex filter : do please send the filter only. I think your instructions will be sufficient ; I had not realised that the filter was already fitted to a straight tube, and was worried about the joining of the filter and glass.

200 offprints of the JGM paper ~~were~~ ^{being} sent by ordinary mail.

ENTRATA ALLE UNIVERSITÀ DI MILANO
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I heard from Barigozzi that he answered negatively your request that I read your paper at the Genetics Congress if you do not come. I strongly hope that you have managed to get the necessary funds for coming. I do not see who else could give this paper ^{inst-ad of} for you. I would be a too poor substitute and would definitely refuse.

Congress of Microbiology: I am thinking of asking five or six people to give lectures of about 40' on the main topics of genetics of microorganisms. There will then be a number (not too high, for the moment) of mostly unimportant short papers. I have thought of the following items: ~~Mutation (Beadar or Demerec)~~; Selection (Ryan); Genetic transfer (yourself on coli and salmonella; these two items could also be divided; Hotchkiss or Alexander on transformations). Other possible special subjects: Pontecorvo or Roper on Aspergillus; Lysogenicity (who? the answer is usually Lwoff, but Bertani might be a good substitute); Animal viruses (Burnet). Have you any comments and advice? As to your own contribution, there will be no trouble in this case for me to act as a speaker for you, as I seem to be the almost uncontrolled master of this section and the Congress of Microbiology will be tuned in a more approximate and compromising way than the Genetics Congress, in agreement with the North-South gradient of taking-it-easiness prevailing in Europe.

Yours

Luca

P.S. Title and summary of your paper for the Congress of Microbiology must be in by 31st of May.

P.S., 28th of April. The manuscript has been finished today and is exceedingly rough; it may serve mainly, at this stage, for checking logic rigour, polemical strength and order of exposition, stress on various items, and things forgotten or superfluous. Some of the data were quoted by memory and I must check them; but please refer to any mistake or imprecision that you may discover. I want to send this soon, so as to have time at least for reaching your comment on this preliminary draft. If Chain leaves no time for sending back to you the manuscript for a second correction by yourself, this could be dealt with through the proofs. - On second reflection, I am uncertain whether to answer Yudkin's paper to Nature; I am therefore not including the draft of this letter, contrary to what said earlier.

useful to say that they are awaited at your earliest convenience.